

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 37697/0002

Applicant: Edward W. MERRILL *et al.*

Appl. No.: To be assigned

Filing Date: Concurrently herewith

Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

jc986 U.S. PTO
09/76445
01/19/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and §1.97

#5
D. B.
1-29-02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants believe that the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1), therefore, no fee is required with this filing.

Applicants submit herewith on Form PTO-1449, a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in parent application Serial No. 09/572,324 filed May 18, 2000. The relevance of these prior art documents is explained in the parent application.

As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in parent application Serial No. 09/572,324 filed May 18, 2000.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. Isacson
Reg. No. 33,715

January 19, 2001
Date

HELLER EHRLMAN WHITE & MCAULIFFE
815 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20007
Phone: (202) 263-8900
Fax: (202) 785-8877



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY OR CREDIT
ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 08-1641.